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GOOLE
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Annual Report
OF THE
Medical Officer of Health



1960

GOOLE:
GOOLE TIMES COMPANY LIMITED
1961

GOOLE
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Chairman :

Councillor H. S. WOOD, J.P.

Vice-Chairman :

Councillor C. W. HARTLEY.

Medical Officer of Health :

S. KENNAUGH APPLETON, M.D., CH.B., D.P.H., D.T.M.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health :

MURIEL J. LOWE, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., D.C.H.

Public Health Inspector :

J. ALLAN POTTS, A.M.I.S.E., M.S.I.A.

**To the Chairman and Members of the
GOOLE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL**

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my Fourteenth Annual Report on the health of the District and the work of the Health Department for the year 1960.

The mid-1960 estimated population, as calculated by the Registrar-General, was 9,180, an increase of 20 on the 1959 figure. The excess of births over deaths was 40.

The Birth Rate was 14.8 per thousand population (Adjusted Birth Rate 14.5), which is well below the W.R. Rural District Aggregate Rate of 17.8. The Rate for England and Wales was 17.1.

The Crude Death Rate was 10.5 (Adjusted Death Rate 11.3). The W.R. Rural Rate was 9.7 and that for England and Wales 11.5.

Of the 96 deaths, 39 (40.6%) occurred at the age of 75 years and over; of these, 9 were over 85 years and 3 over 90 years.

There were 4 infant deaths giving a Rate of 29.4 per thousand live births. The W.R. Rural Rate was 22.4 and the Rate for England and Wales at 21.7 was a new low record.

Infectious disease notifications totalled 40.

POLIOMYELITIS PREVENTION: There was a steady demand for vaccination in the age groups 6 months to 26 years, but the extension of the offer to those up to the age of forty years was disappointing. It is estimated that 70% of the population at risk has now been protected. The incidence of poliomyelitis throughout the country, and particularly in the West Riding, was light and no cases occurred in the District.

MENTAL HEALTH ACT, 1959: This Act, which came fully into force on the 1st November, is based on two new concepts. Firstly, that there should be as little formality and no stigma attached to going into a mental hospital for treatment than into a general hospital. The Act provides for the detention, with many safeguards of the patients' rights, of the

minority who must be detained in their own interests and the safety of others. Secondly, that those who need some treatment but do not need to be in hospital shall be looked after in the general community. The Act is a great step forward in the treatment of the mentally disordered, but its full implementation will take time.

As part of the Local Health Authority's scheme an Occupation Centre for the training of 40 severely subnormal children and 20 adults is being built at Rawcliffe and should come into use in 1961.

Finally, I place on record my thanks for the continued support of the Members and Officers of the Council, and to the Voluntary Committees for their services at the Clinics.

I remain,

Your obedient servant,

S. KENNAUGH APPLETON,

Medical Officer of Health.

July, 1961.

1960

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area of Rural District	38,238	acres
Population (mid-1960)	9,180	
Number of Inhabited Houses	2,909	
Rateable Value (1/4/61)	£69,984	
Estimated Product of Penny Rate (1/4/61) ...	£278/2/11	

VITAL STATISTICS

	Aggregate GOOLE R.D.	West Riding R.D.s	West Riding & Admin. County	England & Wales (provisional)
BIRTH RATE				
(per 1,000 population) ...	14·8	17·8	16·9	17·1
CRUDE DEATH RATES				
(per 1,000 population)				
All causes	10·5	9·7	11·5	11·5
Infective and Parasitic Diseases	0·	0·05	0·06	—
Respiratory Tuberculosis ...	0·11	0·07	0·06	0·07
Other forms of Tuberculosis	0·	0·01	0·01	0·01
Respiratory Diseases (excluding Respiratory Tuberculosis)	0·76	0·96	1·17	—
Cancer	1·42	1·67	1·98	2·16
Heart and Circulatory Diseases	3·16	3·52	4·35	—
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	2·51	1·53	1·85	—
INFANT MORTALITY				
(Deaths under one year per 1,000 live births) ...	29·4	22·4	22·5	21·7
Stillbirths	55·6	23·9	22·4	19·7
MATERNAL MORTALITY				
(Deaths of mothers in childbirth per 1,000 total births)	0	0·82	0·73	0·39
COMPARABILITY FACTORS				
For Births 0·98		Adjusted Birth Rate ...	14·5	
For Deaths 1·08		Adjusted Death Rate ...	11·3	

BIRTHS

		Male.	Female.	Total.
LIVE BIRTHS:	Legitimate	70	62	132
	Illegitimate	1	3	4
		—	—	—
	Total	71	65	136
STILLBIRTHS	... ... ...	4	4	8

**Birth and Death Rates for Six Years
and Mean Rates for Decennial Periods**

BIRTH RATE

(per 1,000 population)

1960	...	...	...	14·8	1901-1910	...	...	27·4
1959	...	...	...	16·7	1911-1920	...	...	23·6
1958	...	...	...	15·7	1921-1930	...	...	22·1
1957	...	...	...	15·1	1931-1940	...	...	16·2
1956	...	...	...	14·1	1941-1950	...	...	18·3
1955	...	...	...	13·1	1951-1960	...	...	15·4

STILLBIRTHS

(per 1,000 total births)

1960	...	...	...	55·6	1901-1910	...	...	—
1959	...	...	...	31·6	1911-1920	...	...	—
1958	...	...	...	13·8	1921-1930	...	...	—
1957	...	...	...	14·3	1931-1940	...	...	39·1
1956	...	...	...	51·5	1941-1950	...	...	33·2
1955	...	...	...	40·0	1951-1960	...	...	25·6

ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS

(per 1,000 total births)

1960	...	...	...	27·8	1901-1910	...	...	67·8
1959	...	...	...	50·6	1911-1920	...	...	88·6
1958	...	...	...	48·3	1921-1930	...	...	72·1
1957	...	...	...	50·0	1931-1940	...	...	49·3
1956	...	...	...	44·1	1941-1950	...	...	71·6
1955	...	...	...	56·0	1951-1960	...	...	46·7

INFANTILE MORTALITY

(per 1,000 live births)

1960	...	...	...	29·4	1901-1910	...	...	134·7
1959	...	...	...	6·5	1911-1920	...	...	100·4
1958	...	...	...	49·0	1921-1930	...	...	82·6
1957	...	...	...	29·0	1931-1940	...	...	59·0
1956	...	...	...	31·0	1941-1950	...	...	43·3
1955	...	...	...	33·3	1951-1960	...	...	33·9

NEONATAL MORTALITY

(deaths in first month per 1,000 live births)

1960	...	...	...	22·1	1901-1910	...	...	24·5
1959	...	...	...	0	1911-1920	...	...	25·5
1958	...	...	...	41·9	1921-1930	...	...	22·3
1957	...	...	...	29·0	1931-1940	...	...	26·6
1956	...	...	...	7·8	1941-1950	...	...	19·8
1955	...	...	...	25·0	1951-1960	...	...	22·8

Birth and Death Rates for Six Years and Mean Rates for Decennial Periods

MATERNAL MORTALITY

(per 1,000 total births)

1960	...	...	...	0	1901-1910	...	...	5·33
1959	...	...	...	0	1911-1920	...	...	4·74
1958	...	...	...	0	1921-1930	...	...	3·92
1957	...	...	...	0	1931-1940	...	...	4·54
1956	...	...	...	0	1941-1950	...	...	1·17
1955	...	...	...	0	1951-1960	...	...	0·63

TOTAL DEATH RATE

(per 1,000 population)

1960	...	...	...	10·5	1901-1910	...	...	15·7
1959	...	...	...	12·4	1911-1920	...	...	14·7
1958	...	...	...	10·6	1921-1930	...	...	12·1
1957	...	...	...	8·3	1931-1940	...	...	11·5
1956	...	...	...	8·3	1941-1950	...	...	11·3
1955	...	...	...	9·7	1951-1960	...	...	10·2

DISEASES OF HEART AND CIRCULATION

1960	...	...	...	3·16	1901-1910	...	...	1·71
1959	...	...	...	4·59	1911-1920	...	...	1·03
1958	...	...	...	4·50	1921-1930	...	...	2·22
1957	...	...	...	3·93	1931-1940	...	...	3·73
1956	...	...	...	3·28	1941-1950	...	...	3·54
1955	...	...	...	2·63	1951-1960	...	...	3·80

VASCULAR DISEASES OF CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM

1960	...	...	...	2·50	1901-1910	...	...	—
1959	...	...	...	1·75	1911-1920	...	...	—
1958	...	...	...	0·88	1921-1930	...	...	0·79
1957	...	...	...	0·66	1931-1940	...	...	0·76
1956	...	...	...	0·76	1941-1950	...	...	0·97
1955	...	...	...	1·53	1951-1960	...	...	1·13

CANCER

1960	...	...	...	1·42	1901-1910	...	...	0·88
1959	...	...	...	2·73	1911-1920	...	...	1·04
1958	...	...	...	1·32	1921-1930	...	...	1·37
1957	...	...	...	1·97	1931-1940	...	...	1·28
1956	...	...	...	1·86	1941-1950	...	...	1·70
1955	...	...	...	1·75	1951-1960	...	...	1·82

**Birth and Death Rates for Six Years
and Mean Rates for Decennial Periods**

RESPIRATORY DISEASES

1960	...	...	...	0·76	1901-1910	...	...	2·48
1959	...	...	...	1·64	1911-1920	...	...	1·88
1958	...	...	...	0·88	1921-1930	...	...	1·45
1957	...	...	...	0·55	1931-1940	...	...	0·77
1956	...	...	...	0·76	1941-1950	...	...	0·95
1955	...	...	...	1·42	1951-1960	...	...	1·07

INFECTIVE AND PARASITIC DISEASES

1960	...	...	...	0	1901-1910	...	...	1·22
1959	...	...	...	0·11	1911-1920	...	...	1·26
1958	...	...	...	0	1921-1930	...	...	0·57
1957	...	...	...	0	1931-1940	...	...	0·23
1956	...	...	...	0	1941-1950	...	...	0·15
1955	...	...	...	0·11	1951-1960	...	...	0·06

RESPIRATORY TUBERCULOSIS

1960	...	...	...	0·11	1901-1910	...	...	0·73
1959	...	...	...	0	1911-1920	...	...	0·67
1958	...	...	...	0	1921-1930	...	...	0·61
1957	...	...	...	0	1931-1940	...	...	0·33
1956	...	...	...	0	1941-1950	...	...	0·37
1955	...	...	...	0	1951-1960	...	...	0·06

NON-RESPIRATORY TUBERCULOSIS

1960	...	...	...	0	1901-1910	...	...	0·70
1959	...	...	...	0·11	1911-1920	...	...	0·30
1958	...	...	...	0	1921-1930	...	...	0·29
1957	...	...	...	0	1931-1940	...	...	0·13
1956	...	...	...	0	1941-1950	...	...	0·09
1955	...	...	...	0	1951-1960	...	...	0·02

MASS RADIOGRAPHY

The Miniature Radiography Unit did not visit the District during 1960.

CAUSES OF DEATH

1960

					Male.	Female.	Total.
Influenza	1	0	1
Tuberculosis (Respiratory)	...	...	...	1	0	1
Tuberculosis (other forms)	...	...	...	0	0	0
Malignant Neoplasms	...	...	...	7	6	13
Diabetes	...	...	...	1	0	1
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	...	...	15	8	23	
Heart Disease	...	...	...	10	15	25
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	...	...	3	1	4	
Bronchitis	...	...	...	1	2	3
Other Respiratory Diseases	...	...	0	0	0	
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	...	...	0	0	0	
Hyperplasia of Prostate	...	...	...	1	0	1
Syphilitic Disease	...	...	...	0	0	0
Nephritis	...	...	...	1	1	2
Maternal Causes	...	...	...	0	0	0
Congenital Causes	...	...	...	0	0	0
Pneumonia	...	...	...	1	2	3
Suicide	...	...	...	1	0	1
Motor Vehicle Accidents	...	...	...	3	0	3
Other Accidents	...	...	...	2	2	4
All Other Causes	...	...	...	5	6	11
				—	—	—	
Totals	...	...	...	53	43	96

TUBERCULOSIS

New cases during 1960

					Male.	Female.	Total.
Pulmonary	...	...	...	...	0	1	1
Non-Pulmonary	...	...	...	...	0	0	0
Total cases on the Register:							
Pulmonary	...	...	...	...	16	32*	48
Non-Pulmonary	...	...	...	...	4	2†	6

* Includes 7 cases in a residential institution in the District.

† Includes 2 cases in a residential institution in the District.

INFANTILE MORTALITY, 1960

Causes of Death in Age Groups

	Under 1 week.	1 to 2 weeks.	2 to 3 weeks.	2 to 4 weeks.	1 to 3 months.	3 to 6 months.	6 to 9 months.	9 to 12 months.	Total.
Congenital Defect ..	1			1					2
Pneumonia ...						1			1
Prematurity ...	1								1
Total ...	2			1			1		4

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during 1960

	At all ages	No. of cases notified According to Age								Deaths
		Under 1	1 to 4	5 to 14	15 to 24	25 to 44	45 to 64	Over 64		
Smallpox								
Diphtheria								
Erysipelas								
Scarlet Fever	10	1	3	6				
Enteric Fevers								
Puerperal Pyrexia								
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis									
Ophthalmia Neonatorum									
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	1								1
Other forms of Tuberculosis										
Measles	14		8	6					
Primary Pneumonia	2				1		1		
Influenza Pneumonia									
Whooping Cough	12	1	7	4					
Dysentery	1			1					
Acute Poliomyelitis (P)									
Food Poisoning									
Totals	40	2	18	17		1		2	

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 to 1959

Part I. — Inspections

Premises.	No. on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by L.A.s	4	5	0	0
Factories not included above in which Section 7 is enforced by L.A.s	26	19	0	0
Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by L.A.s	9	37	0	0
Total ..	39	61	0	0

Part I. — Defects

Particulars.	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M.I.	Referred by H.M.I.	Prosecutions instituted
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ..	0	0	0	0	0
Overcrowding (S.2) ..	0	0	0	0	0
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	0	0	0	0	0
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	0	0	0	0	0
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	0	0	0	0	0
Sanitary conveniences insufficient, unsuitable or defective (S.7)	0	0	0	0	0
Other offences	0	0	0	0	0
Total ..	0	0	0	0	0

Part VIII.: Outworkers — Nil.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS, 1948 and 1951

One semi-vagrant woman was removed to Part III. Accommodation and has remained there since on a voluntary basis.

WEST RIDING COUNTY DIVISIONAL HEALTH SERVICES IN GOOLE R.D., 1960

The Public Health Nursing Staff in this Division no longer works according to County District boundaries. Most of the figures in the following summaries refer to Goole R.D., but in certain cases the figures are those for the Rural District and Goole Borough combined, or for Division No. 10 as a whole.

1. BIRTHS: Live 136 ; Stillbirths 8 ; Illegitimate 4 ; Males 71 ; Females 65.

2. PREMATURE BABIES—Babies weighing $5\frac{1}{2}$ lb. or less at birth:

(i) Born at home	...	...	2	Stillborn	1
(ii) Born in Hospital	...	...	3	„	3
			—		—
Total ...	...	...	5	„	4

3. HEALTH VISITING (for Division No. 10 as a whole):

		First Visits.	Other Visits.	Total.
Expectant Mothers	...	227	245	472
Children under 1 year	...	754	5073	5827
Children between 1 and 5	...	—	4815	4815
Other cases ...	...	—	3298	3298
Ineffective visits	...	199	2149	2348
		—	—	—
Total ...	...	1180	15580	16760

4. CHILD WELFARE CLINICS:

(a) Total number of children under 5 years of age who first attended the Clinics during the year and who at the date of their first attendance were:—

Under 1 year 124

(b) Total number of children under 5 years of age who attended the Clinics during the year and who at the end of the year were:—

(i) Under 1 year 77
(ii) Over 1 year 125

Number of sessions held:—

SNAITH	...	...	...	...	...	...	50
Total attendance	...	...	...	...	...	...	1234
Average per session	...	...	...	...	...	...	24.7
SWINEFLEET	...	...	...	...	...	...	48
Total attendance	...	...	...	...	...	...	669
Average per session	...	...	...	...	...	...	13.9

Of the above, 30 Selby Rural children made 135 visits to Goole Rural Clinics and 50 Goole Rural children made 257 visits to Goole Borough Clinics.

5. SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE:

Attendances at School Clinic ... ... ...	... 85
Number attending Pædiatric Consultant ... ... ...	... 21
Number attending County Oculist ... ... ...	... 135
Number prescribed Spectacles ... ... ...	... 59
Number attending Speech Therapy ... ... ...	... 2
Number inspected in school by School M.O. ... ...	... 547
Number inspected in school by School Nurse ... ...	... 2261
Number of Verminous Heads ... ... ...	... 23
Tests for Mental Defect, primary ... ... ...	... 3
Re-examinations ... ... ... ...	... 4
Reported to M.D. Authority as ineducable ... ...	... 1
Recommended for Residential School ... ...	... 1
Attending Residential Schools ... ... ...	... 5
Reported to M.D. Authority for supervision ... ...	... 3

The following defects were found at Medical Inspections:

	Requiring For obser- treatment.	vation.
Verminous heads	23	0
Skin	3	2
Vision	20	21
Other eye conditions	1	1
Hearing	1	1
Other ear defects	11	14
Nose and Throat	3	6
Speech	0	1
Cervical glands	0	3
Heart and circulation	0	4
Lungs	2	3
Developmental	0	3
Orthopædic	6	1
Nervous system	1	1
Psychological	1	3
Other conditions	1	1

SCHOOL DENTAL SERVICE (Division No. 10 as a whole).

Number inspected ... ... ... ...	... 3868
Requiring treatment ... ... ... ...	... 2864
Offered treatment ... ... ... ...	... 1666
Treated ... ... ... ...	... 1239

6. MATERNITY SERVICES:

ANTE-NATAL CLINIC:	Snaith.	Swinefleet.
Number of patients attending	30	17
Total number of attendances	147	59
Number of sessions held	25	25
Average attendance per session	5.9	2.3

Included in the above are 4 expectant mothers from Selby Rural District, who made 12 visits to the Snaith Clinic. In addition, 13 expectant mothers made 86 attendances at the Goole Ante-Natal Clinic.

Relaxation Exercises and Mothercraft Classes are held at Swinefleet Clinic and 21 attendances were made.

MOTHERS CONFINED IN HOSPITAL:

Goole Maternity Home	...	...	...	...	...	32
Leeds Hospitals	...	...	...	...	...	4
Wakefield Hospitals	...	...	...	...	...	19
Scunthorpe Hospitals	...	...	...	...	...	1
Doncaster Hospitals	...	...	...	...	...	1
Other Hospitals	...	...	...	...	...	0
						—
Total	...	...	...	...	...	57

COUNTY MIDWIVES:

There were 82 domiciliary confinements in the Rural District during 1960.

The following summary of the work of the County Midwives is for Division No. 10 as a whole:—

Number of cases	...	...	...	...	...	423
Number of visits	...	...	...	...	...	13807
Gas and air analgesia	...	...	...	...	...	303
Number of Midwives	...	...	...	...	...	7

7. HOME NURSING (Division No. 10 as a whole):—

Number of cases	...	...	...	...	...	545
Number of visits	...	...	...	...	...	13123

8. HOME HELPS:

Home Helps were employed for 60,222 hours attending cases in the Division.

They attended the following cases in Goole R.D.:—

Maternity	...	12	Chronic Sick (under 65)	8
Chronic Sick over 65)	...	...	Other	...

21

9. IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA—during 1960:

Children under 5 years	...	...	...	...	...	122
Children over 5 years	...	...	...	...	...	10

Total 132

Booster Doses	71
---------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

Total 203

Total number of children under 15 years of age who have been immunised up to the 31st December, 1960:—

Age—Years	0—1	1—4	5—9	10—14	Total under 15
Number	92	341	490	607	1530
Percentage	65		73		72

10. IMMUNISATION AGAINST WHOOPING COUGH:

				During 1960.	Up to Dec. 1960
Under 6 months	...	...	...	...	54
6 months to 1 year	...	...	...	...	38
					89
3—4 years	...	...	...	...	17
2—3 years	...	...	...	...	6
1—2 years	...	...	...	...	1
					638
				—	—
				116	727

11. B.C.G. VACCINATION OF SCHOOL CHILDREN (13 years of age):

Number of acceptances in 1960	...	...	96
Pre-Vaccination Tuberculin Tests	...	...	95
Positive (not requiring vaccination)	...	...	24 (25·2%)
Negative (requiring vaccination)	...	...	71 (74·8%)
			—
Number vaccinated with B.C.G.	...	...	71
Number re-tested after 12 months	...	...	39

12. VACCINATION AGAINST POLIOMYELITIS:

Total registered to 31st December, 1960	...	...	3716
Vaccinations completed	...	...	3702
Boosters	...	...	2312

13. MENTAL HEALTH:

Mental Health Act, 1959.

The number of persons under care and guidance at the end of 1960 were as follows:—

	Male.	Female.	Total
Psychopathic	—
Subnormal	12 10 22
Severely Subnormal	3 4 7

Admissions to Mental Hospitals by the Mental Welfare Officers during 1960 were as follows:—

	Male.	Female.	Total
Emergency Admissions	...	—	1 1
Admissions for Observation	...	—	—
Admissions for Treatment	...	—	—
Informal Admissions	...	10 4	14

PUBLIC HEALTH DIVISION No. 10

The County Districts forming Division No. 10 are:—

Goole Borough (1,267 acres) Selby Urban (3,883 acres)

Goole Rural (38,238 acres) Selby Rural (33,304 acres)

Area of the Division 76,692 acres

Population (estimated mid-1960) 45,760

(Census 1961) 44,533

DIVISIONAL HEALTH OFFICE & STAFF :

6/7, Belgravia, Goole (Telephone Goole 936 & 123)

Divisional Medical Officer & Divisional School Medical Officer:

S. KENNAUGH APPLETON, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H., D.T.M.

Senior Assistant County Medical Officer & School Medical Officer:

MURIEL J. LOWE, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., H.C.H.

Assistant County Medical Officer & School Medical Officer:

EILEEN M. R. BELL-SYER, M.B., B.S.

School Dental Officer:

P. F. A. ELTOME, L.D.S.

Health Visitors and School Nurses:

Mrs. B. BEAL, Miss D. M. BUTLER, Mrs. M. DODSON,
Mrs. M. HARGREAVES, Mrs. M. KELLY, Mrs. L. PRATT,
Miss A. RIDSDALE, Miss D. M. ROBINSON,
Mrs. A. SUTHERLAND (part-time).

Home Nurses:

Miss P. K. AGER, Mrs. S. CLAYBOURN, Mrs. N. CURRAN,
Mrs. W. E. DUFFIN, Mrs. L. A. POLLARD, Mrs. J. SAWDON.

Domiciliary Midwives:

Miss L. ADDINALL, Miss I. CAMPBELL, Mrs. M. COLLIER,
Mrs. M. E. HORNSHAW, Mrs. A. G. HORSFIELD,
Mrs. M. M. HUGHES, Mrs. L. KITCHEN.

Mental Health Officers:

Mr. T. G. FOSTER, Mrs. M. MYERS.

Snaith Group Training Centre:

Miss E. SMITH, Mrs. A. ALVEY, Miss C. S. LOGAN.

Speech Therapy: Miss K. WADE (Divisions 10, 11 & 12).

Welfare Officer: Mr. N. SUTCLIFFE.

Blind Welfare: Mrs. J. KILNER (Goole 937).

Clerical:

Senior Clerk: Mr. R. TOWELL.

Deputy Senior Clerk: Mr. H. DODSON.

Miss S. L. BRAMHAM, Mrs. M. E. BRYARS (part-time),
Mrs. B. BUCKLE, Miss F. A. CAMPBELL, Mr. J. LAWTON.

Mr. G. N. NOWILL, Mrs. J. NOWILL (part-time),

Miss J. E. SMAJE.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S REPORT, 1960.

To the Chairman and Members of the Goole Rural District Council.

MR. CHAIRMAN, GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my report for the year 1960.

As in my past reports, I have omitted the tables of statistics, and have reviewed only those subjects on which I think comment is needed.

The day-to-day routine work of the Department has gone on unannounced, unseen, and probably unknown to the greater part of the general public. This could be said to be a good thing, for it is only when things go wrong that the public health services receive publicity.

Yours faithfully,

J. ALLEN POTTS,

Public Health Inspector.

HOUSING.

During the year, twenty-four unfit houses were either demolished or closed. When one considers the low standard of much of the property in the district this figure is low enough, but even so represents the largest clearance of unfit houses in a single year since before the war.

The reasons for this are easily seen. Up to now the Council's main concern in the post-war years has been to build houses for additional accommodation, so that families living with relatives could have a house of their own. Unsatisfactory houses were left and re-let because it was felt that "any house is better than no house." This part of the housing problem has now been largely overcome, and the stage has been reached when there must be a weeding out of the worn-out and unsatisfactory houses in the area. This will be a major task.

The Goole rural area is almost wholly agricultural in character and as in other similar districts by far the greater part of the working population must depend for their housing upon rented property. The opportunities to earn high wages, as in the factories, are not available to the countryman. He is better off now than he has ever been before, but he has little chance of accumulating enough capital to buy a house. The only choice, therefore, is between a privately-owned rented house (often "tied" to farm work) or a Council house. Privately-owned, rented houses become less in number year by year, due to demolition and sales to new owner-occupiers often from higher rented neighbouring areas. The choice is so increasingly restricted and the demand for Council houses continues unabated.

House rents are traditionally very low in country districts and owners of rented property will not take advantage of any scheme to help install modern amenities. The houses are often kept reasonably weatherproof and that is all, so there is an ever-widening gap between the standards of Council-owned houses and the ordinary rented property.

At the present time the percentage of Council-owned houses in the Goole Rural District is just under 20% of the total. In one district of the West Riding the proportion is over 50% and there may be other areas approaching this figure.

Unless some method can be found to induce landlords to raise the standard of rented houses, it is painfully obvious that eventually the position will arise that with few exceptions there will be only Council houses available for renting.

This is a national problem, and a solution will have to be found. In the meantime, however, there is a large amount of property long overdue for demolition, and there is no choice for the Councils but to go on building houses as fast as conditions allow, and to do everything that can be done to encourage the improvement of old property to prolong its useful life. As the well-known bacon advertisement tells us, "This isn't politics—it's plain common-sense."

During 1960 the number of grants for the improvement and conversion of houses was slightly less than in the previous year. Four conversion grants were approved, together with thirty-one Standard and Discretionary Improvement Grants. Discretionary Grants ranged from £67 to £400 and Standard Grants from £81/9/- to £144/10/5.

It is interesting to note that in no case did the cost of providing "standard amenities" exceed the limits laid down, and the applicants therefore all received the full 50% of the cost.

The Council obtained a grant from the Ministry of Housing and Local Government towards the cost of providing water closets and hot water systems in four Council houses at Reedness. There remain a few old Council houses which require modernisation—by taking baths out of sculleries and providing proper bathrooms, for example—and it is hoped to carry out further improvement works in the coming year.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

Under the provisions of the Slaughterhouses Act, 1958, the Council was required to review slaughtering facilities in its area during the year.

The statutory report was submitted to the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food in September, and approved by him.

The outcome of the review is that the two licensed slaughterhouses in the district will close during 1961. As the butchers concerned already use the Goole public slaughterhouse for part of their requirements, little hardship should result.

As a fitting close to the final year's slaughtering in the district it must be recorded that all carcases were free from Tuberculosis.

ICE-CREAM.

There are seventeen shops registered for the sale of ice-cream, and during the year 29 samples were taken. All the samples were classified as Grade 1 by the Public Health Laboratory.

SEWERAGE.

It was hoped that 1960 would see the start of some of the urgently needed sewerage and sewage disposal schemes in the district. These hopes have not been fulfilled, however, and although the Rawcliffe scheme will go to tender in 1961, the Snaith/Gowdall/Pollington scheme has met further setbacks. Protracted negotiations with the Air Ministry for the ex-R.A.F. works at Pollington were concluded and the scheme reached final design stage when an objection from the Local Drainage Board made the Council drop the idea in favour of the construction of a complete new works between Gowdall and Snaith. This is the scheme originally proposed several years ago, and one can only hope that this time the scheme will go straight ahead free from the frustrating delays which have dogged past efforts.

REFUSE COLLECTION.

For the first time the whole of the district, apart from one or two completely inaccessible properties, is having some sort of refuse collection service. The villages have a weekly service for dustbins and pail closets, and the outlying properties a collection at about six-weekly intervals for tins, bottles, etc.

There are still far too many ash pits remaining in the district, and these have been tolerated only because their abolition would overstretch the capacity of the two collection vehicles. The necessity for a third vehicle is becoming more and more apparent as more houses are serviced and additional privy conversions are carried out every month. When a further vehicle is purchased, a full scale offensive must be opened against the ash pit which should have no place in the life of the 60's.

